

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

[To accompany Joint Resolution S. 56.]

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

ENCLOSING

Despatches from Mr. Dallas on the subject of the presentation by the British government of certain tokens of acknowledgment to Commander Hartstene, Lieutenant Trenchard, Master Morrison, and the petty officers and crew of the steamer "Vixen."

FEBRUARY 25, 1857.—Ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 24, 1857.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date, and to inform you, in reply, that the British government has forwarded through Mr. Dallas, a sword for Commander Hartstene, of the "Barque Resolute," and two others, one for Lieutenant S. D. Trenchard, of the United States steamer "Vixen," and the other for Mr. Morrison, her master. A copy of Mr. Dallas' despatches on the subject is herewith enclosed. The swords have not actually reached the department, but have arrived at New York, and are understood to be on the way hither. I am aware of nothing which would render it improper for those officers to be authorized to accept the swords, or for the petty officers and crew of the "Vixen" to accept the small sum of money which has been remitted for distribution among them.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. L. MARCY.

Hon. JOHN SLIDELL, *Senate.*

Mr. Dallas to Mr. Marcy.

[No. 39.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 23, 1857.

SIR : On the 20th instant I received from the Foreign Office a mahogany box, containing a handsomely mounted sword of honor, together with a letter from the Earl of Clarendon, apprising me that it had been the Queen's desire to have this testimonial presented to Commander Hartstene on the occasion of his return to the United States, after bringing over the "Resolute," but that it could not be completed before his departure ; and requesting me to forward it to the Secretary of the Navy for presentation to Captain Hartstene, with the expression of her Majesty's hope that he may be permitted to accept it as a memorial of an event which has been so gratifying to the sovereign, the government, and the people of Great Britain.

In execution of the wish expressed by Lord Clarendon, I have now the pleasure to transmit (through the agency of Mr. Miller) the sword ; and annex a copy of the correspondence connected with it, presuming that you will cause both to be placed in possession of the Secretary of the Navy.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

G. M. DALLAS.

Hon. WM. L. MARCY,
Secretary of State.

FOREIGN OFFICE, *January 20, 1857.*

SIR : I have very great pleasure in transmitting to you a sword, which it was the Queen's desire should have been presented to Capt. Hartstene, on the occasion of his return to the United States, after bringing over the "Resolute," but which could not be completed before his departure.

I shall feel greatly obliged if you will have the goodness to forward the sword to the Secretary of the Navy of the United States, for presentation to Captain Hartstene ; and I am commanded by her Majesty to express the hope that he may be permitted to accept it as a memorial of an event which has been so gratifying to the sovereign, the government, and the people of this country.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of the highest consideration with which I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CLARENDON.

GEORGE M. DALLAS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 21, 1857.

MY LORD: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant, accompanied by a sword, which it was the Queen's desire should have been presented to Captain Hartstene on the occasion of his return to the United States, after bringing over the "Resolute."

I beg your lordship to allow me to express the high satisfaction which cannot fail to be felt by the American people and government at finding the restoration of the "Resolute" to her navy esteemed by her Majesty worthy of a memorial so distinguished. This brilliant token will, agreeably to your lordship's suggestion, be immediately transmitted by me to the Secretary of the Navy for presentation to Captain Hartstene, connected with the gracious hope which, at the command of her Majesty, your lordship has communicated, that he may be permitted to accept it.

I seize the occasion to repeat the assurance of the very high consideration with which I have the honor to be your lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. M. DALLAS.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF CLARENDON, &c., &c.

Mr. Dallas to Mr. Marcy.

[No. 40.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 23, 1857.

SIR: I received late last evening, from her Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, the letter, of which a copy is annexed, accompanied by a box containing two swords, which will be confided to the transmission of Mr. Miller.

These complimentary testimonials are designed as grateful acknowledgments, by the government of her Britannic Majesty, of the generous and effective services rendered in rescuing the lives and property of certain of her Majesty's subjects from destruction, by Lieutenant S. D. Trenchard, commanding the United States steamer "Vixen," and by Mr. Morrison, her master, on the 4th of August, 1856, under circumstances specially signalized in his communication by the Earl of Clarendon. It is hoped that these officers may be permitted to accept the memorials thus presented of their gallantry and humanity.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
 G. M. DALLAS.

Hon. WILLIAM L. MARCY,
Secretary of State.

FOREIGN OFFICE, *January 21, 1857.*

SIR: Her Majesty's government received some time ago from her Majesty's consul at Boston, a report of an essential service rendered to a British vessel by the commander and the master of the United States surveying vessel "Vixen."

The British barque "Adieu," of Glasgow, bound from that port to Boston, struck upon a dangerous reef of rocks situated about nine miles from Gloucester, in Massachusetts, on the 4th of August last, and would probably have become a total wreck had it not been for the timely arrival of the "Vixen" and the prompt aid afforded by her commander, Lieutenant S. Decatur Trenchard. Upon the situation of the barque being made known to him he immediately sent Mr. Morrison, the master of the "Vixen," and several men, on board the "Adieu," and mainly through their exertions she was ultimately got afloat, and was towed into the harbor of Gloucester by the "Vixen."

Her Majesty's consul at Boston, as well as the master, the consignees, and the underwriters of the "Adieu," immediately expressed their thanks to Lieutenant Trenchard for his valuable and efficient services on that occasion. But her Majesty's government cannot allow them to pass without offering to him and to Mr. Morrison some mark of their gratitude. They have accordingly caused to be prepared for each of those officers a sword, which I have the honor to transmit to you herewith; and I venture to express the hope that they may be permitted to accept them, more especially as the officers of the "Vixen" most liberally declined to make any claim for salvage, which, I believe, they might have done according to the rules of the service of the United States.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of the highest consideration with which I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

CLARENDON.

GEORGE M. DALLAS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Dallas to Mr. Marcy.

[No. 41.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 30, 1857.

SIR: * * * * * * *

The communication from the Earl of Clarendon of the 21st instant, accompanied by the two swords for Lieutenant Trenchard and Mr. Morrison, a copy of which I annexed to my last, was received at too late an hour to permit my replying to it. I now send a copy of my answer. These swords, together with the one for Commander Hartstone, were unfortunately separated from my letters respecting them by the despatch agent, they requiring, according to his representation, additional packing, and there being no time within which to give it.

You will, I trust, however, receive them soon and safely, as they were confided to Dr. Holland, who sailed in the City of Baltimore yesterday for Philadelphia, and to whom a courier's passport was given, with an injunction to reach you without the least delay. The same sense of service rendered which prompted the presentation of the swords to the two chief officers of the "Vixen" has been felt by the Glasgow insurers on the "Adieu," the vessel rescued from wreck. These gentlemen have jointly raised the sum of sixty pounds eighteen shillings, (say \$294 50,) to be distributed among "the petty officers and crew," and a check for that amount was transmitted to me by Lord Clarendon in a letter of the 26th instant. I enclose this check, together with a copy of the correspondence.

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I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
G. M. DALLAS.

Hon. WILLIAM L. MARCY,
Secretary of State.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 24, 1857.

MY LORD: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your lordship's letter of the date of the 21st instant, accompanied by two swords, offered in the name of her Majesty's government, as marks of gratitude to Lieutenant S. D. Trenchard and Mr. Morrison, of the United States steamer Vixen, for their successful exertions in rescuing from wreck and towing safely into harbor, on the 4th of August, 1856, the British barque Adieu, of Glasgow.

These swords I have had great pleasure in forwarding to the Secretary of State at Washington, communicating, at the same time, your lordship's letter, and begging special attention to the expression of a hope that Lieutenant Trenchard and Mr. Morrison may be each permitted to accept so honorable a testimonial.

Assuring your lordship of my highest consideration, I remain, your lordship's most obedient servant,

G. M. DALLAS.

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF CLARENDON, &c.

FOREIGN OFFICE, *January 26, 1857.*

SIR: With reference to the letter which I had the honor to address to you on the 21st instant, transmitting two swords which her Majesty's government desired to present to Lieutenant S. Decatur Trenchard and Mr. Morrison, of the United States surveying steam vessel "Vixen," as a mark of gratitude for services rendered to the British barque "Adieu," I have the honor to acquaint you that the Glasgow

underwriters on that vessel have contributed the sum of £60 18s. to be distributed among the petty officers and crew of the "Vixen."

I have the honor to transmit to you the check for that sum, which I have received from Lloyd's; and I shall feel obliged if you will, with your usual kindness, remit the amount to the United States, to be disposed of according to the wish of the contributors.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of the highest consideration with which I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

CLARENDON.

GEORGE M. DALLAS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, January 27, 1857.

MY LORD: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your lordship's letter of the 26th instant, enclosing a check for £60 18s.; a sum contributed by the Glasgow underwriters on the British barque "Adieu," as a mark of their gratitude for the services rendered by the petty officers and crew of the United States steamer "Vixen," on the occasion referred to in your lordship's communication of the 21st instant.

This check will be immediately remitted by me to Washington, agreeably to your lordship's desire, to be disposed of according to the wish of its generous contributors.

Availing myself of this opportunity to renew my assurances of the highest consideration, I have the honor to be your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

G. M. DALLAS.

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF CLARENDON,
&c., &c., &c.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
JANUARY 1954
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD
SUBJECT: [Illegible]
[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be a series of paragraphs or a list of items, but the specific details cannot be discerned.]